

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/717,726	HANCOCK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Aaron M. Richer	2628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to after final amendment filed November 28, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-16,18-20 and 22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 4-16, 18-20, and 22 are allowed.
2. As to claims 1, 7, 12, 16, 19, and 22, Ozawa discloses an apparatus comprising:
a rendering engine to render a foreground of an image (fig. 1, element 302), the image comprising a number of windows, each window identified by a window identification (fig. 1, element 131); and
a logic, separate from the rendering engine, to merge at least one background color with the foreground of the image, after the foreground of the image is rendered by the rendering engine (fig. 1, element 304; the background color is not merged until the foreground pixels of the window have been generated in fig. 1, element 102),
wherein the logic comprises a background color table (fig. 1, element 132).
Further, Dawson discloses alpha blending between background color and foreground (col. 1, lines 20-44).

Neither Ozawa nor Dawson discloses that, for each window identification, the table includes the first background color in an A for each window identification, includes the first background color in an A buffer background color column and the second background color in a B buffer background color column, the logic storing the first background color in the A buffer background color column when displaying the second background color in the B buffer background color column, and displaying the first background color in the A buffer background color column when storing the second background color in the B buffer background color column.

Ozawa discloses a table with background colors for a number of frames, but fails to disclose multiple columns of background colors, such as A buffer and B buffer background columns. While Ozawa discloses A and B buffers, these are not both used for background colors, as can be seen in fig. 5. Dawson does not disclose A/B buffers or a table with background colors for a number of frames. No other reference combinable with Ozawa and Dawson includes multiple table columns for background colors and buffers that match these columns that are used to read and write these specific values at the same time. While it is known in the art to read and write using 2 buffers, and it would be obvious for one skilled in the art to blend two colors using a table, one skilled in the art would not have found the combination of these methods in the specific way claimed by applicant obvious.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As to claim 1, the prior art does not disclose "a table that, for each window identification, includes the first background color in an A buffer background color column and the second background color in a B buffer background color column, the logic storing the first background color in the A buffer background color column when displaying the second background color in the B buffer background color column, and displaying the first background color in the A buffer background color column when storing the second background color in the B buffer background color column." along with the other limitations of claim 1. Independent claims 7, 12, 16, 19, and 22 recite similar limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

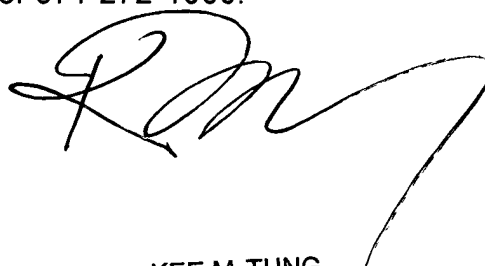
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M. Richer whose telephone number is (571) 272-7790. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AMR
12/17/07



KEE M. TUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER